

REPORT/RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
AND RECORD OF ACTION

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February 25, 2003

FROM: **JOHN MICHAELSON**, County Administrative Officer

PETER HILLS, Fire Chief/Fire Warden,
San Bernardino County Consolidated Fire District

SUBJECT: **TERMINATION OF THE PROCLAMATION OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY
RELATING TO THE WRIGHTWOOD WATER OUTAGE**

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt Resolution No. 03-____, which terminates the Emergency Proclamation originally proclaimed by the Board of Supervisors on July 30, 2002, relating to the water outage described in the original Emergency Proclamation, as conditions now no longer exist to warrant continuing the local emergency.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: On July 30, 2002, the Board adopted a resolution proclaiming a local emergency due to the continual water outage in the community of Wrightwood. The Board has reviewed and continued the proclamation on either 14-day or 21-day intervals as required by the California Government Code section 8630, through February 11, 2003, due to the continued existence of the local emergency.

On January 14, 2003, the water purveyor, Southern California Water Company (SCWC) ceased hauling water from the Hesperia Water District. The discontinuance of water hauling, which originally started in July 2002, was made possible by water conservation efforts within the community of Wrightwood, reduction in water demands due to winter usage demands, and the stabilization of water levels in existing SCWC wells. Additionally, SCWC has begun drilling a well in the Heath Creek area of the system and is also evaluating the possibility of drilling a replacement well in the Government Canyon area on the West side of the system. As a result, SCWC has advised that it would be appropriate for the County to discontinue the local emergency proclamation.

Due to the stabilization of water levels in the community of Wrightwood, the San Bernardino County Fire Department (Office of Emergency Services) and San Bernardino County Department of Special Districts (Water and Sanitation Division) have both determined that termination of the local emergency is prudent at this time. As a precaution, SCWC has located two (2) ten-thousand-gallon water tanks in the Wrightwood Area for firefighting purposes. Approval of this recommendation would proclaim that the Board of Supervisors has terminated the Local Emergency in accordance with Government Code section 8630(d).

Record of Action of the Board of Supervisors

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REVIEW BY OTHERS: This item has been reviewed by County Counsel (Deputy Dennis Tilton) on February 12, 2003, the County Administrative Office (Wayne Thies, Administrative Analyst) on February 13, 2003, and the Special Districts Department, Water and Sanitation Division (Tom Sutton, General Manager) on February 13, 2003.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: None associated with this action. During the term of this emergency declaration period, from July 30, 2002 to February 25, 2003, all costs associated with mitigating this emergency were incurred by SCWC. Some of these costs included the purchase of water by SCWC from County Service Area 70, Improvement Zone L (Pinon Hills), and the Hesperia Water District at a rate of \$1.60 per hundred-cubic feet.

SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS: First

PRESENTERS: Tom Sutton (760) 955-9885
Denise Benson (909) 356-3998